



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

REGION VII
901 NORTH 5TH STREET
KANSAS CITY, KANSAS 66101

JUL 01 2002

OFFICE OF
THE REGIONAL ADMINISTRATOR

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Site:	Herculaneum
ID#	MO0006246373
Break:	2.0
Other:	7-1-02

Mr. Mark D. Pedersen A717
1565 Commercial Blvd.
Herculaneum, Missouri 63048

Dear Mr. Pedersen:

This is in response to your May 15, 2002, letter concerning the Doe Run lead smelter and the cleanup activities being conducted in your community.

I am saddened to learn of the death of your eldest daughter. You have my sympathies.

As you have pointed out in your letter, various people associated with the town of Herculaneum have a wide variety of interests and concerns regarding the operation of the smelter and the cleanup activities. The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) regularly attends Community Advisory Group meetings and has held several public meetings in Herculaneum. In addition, other residents have contacted us directly. Through numerous discussions, many residents expressed their concerns regarding the actions being taken. Since the residents of Herculaneum are the most knowledgeable about their community, information presented by the residents is very valuable to us in identifying areas of concern. Thus, we encourage everyone in the community to offer their opinion. By seeking input, we receive many different, and often conflicting responses.

In order to determine an appropriate course of action, we rely as much as possible on analytical data. Data is collected from soil samples, air monitors, street dust samples, interior dust samples, as well as blood samples. We work closely with other agencies such as the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), the Missouri Department of Health and Senior Services (MDHSS), and the Missouri Department of Natural Resources, to identify whether or not the risks are adequately addressed.

EPA is requiring actions to be taken to address the risks posed by lead emissions from Doe Run's smelter. While some people may have what you refer to as "special interests", we will proceed on the best course of action to address the potential risks in the most timely manner. We may, from time to time, adjust what is being done based upon what we find through our investigations. For example, we required expedited yard cleanups when we discovered high levels of lead in the streets of Herculaneum.

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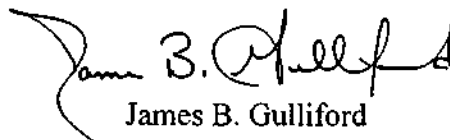
SUPERFUND RECORDS



The cleanup activities in Herculanum are part of an on-going process. We are committed to require actions necessary to adequately address the risks posed by lead emitted from the Doe Run smelter. We will continue to monitor cleanup activities. We will continue to listen to the residents of Herculanum to identify potential areas of concern. We will continue to investigate the extent of smelter contamination in Herculanum. If we find additional risks that need to be addressed, we will require additional actions to be taken by Doe Run. If Doe Run is unable or unwilling to take the necessary actions, we are prepared to undertake them ourselves and seek reimbursement from Doe Run. We will continue to work closely with other agencies. Through this process, we believe that the risks posed by lead from the Doe Run smelter will be adequately addressed.

If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Tony Petruska at 913-551-7637.

Sincerely,



James B. Gulliford
Regional Administrator

cc: Mr. Dave Mosby
Missouri Department of Natural Resources (MDNR)